

BILLUPS BRAND OF PROHIBITION

A Local Minister Objects to the Chieftain's Position on the Liquor Question.

To the Editor of the Chieftain:

Following the discourses in the various pulpits of this city last Sabbath on "Civic Righteousness and Law Enforcement," the Chieftain took occasion editorially to characterize the friends of prohibition in this state as "Misguided," "Ranting advocates," and "Weaklings." Now it is "really not very nice" for the Chieftain to thus call some quite respectable people such uncomplimentary names; but it is only to be remembered that bluff and flinging opprobrious epithets at those who differ from one in opinion is not argument, and only tends to expose the real weakness of the cause in which it is done. The friends of temperance will be none the less respected for such obsessions.

As for the assertions in the editorial made with reference to prohibition, they are only assertions, and represent the stock arguments of the advocates of the liquor traffic; they also exhibit either a reckless disregard for the unimpeachable facts and statistics obtained in all prohibition territory, or an unpardonable ignorance of these facts, many of which have been brought to the attention of the public in very pronounced ways. The most "ranting" advocates of the Billups law have never claimed perfection for it, neither have the advocates of prohibition in any state expected it to work miracles of self-enforcement, yet it is patent to all who in an unbiased way have investigated, that, despite the odds against it, prohibition has been quite as successfully enforced as has many other statutes of the several prohibition states, which have the full favor of the public; and in Oklahoma it has not been a failure by any means in those places where adequate effort has been made to carry out its provisions; this too, in spite of the many difficulties it has had to overcome. It is not here claimed that no liquor has been sold, even in the places where honest effort has been made to enforce the Billups law, but be it remembered that there is not a law on the statute books which is not constantly violated; and if prohibition is to be decreed because it is not perfectly obeyed, the same argument may be made against the laws prohibiting murder, theft, Sunday hunting, and all the rest of our laws, for none of them are kept absolutely. Why does not the Chieftain animadvert against our law prohibiting Sunday desecration? Does it not know of instances manifold in which the first day of the week commonly called Sunday has been wantonly desecrated in violation of the laws of God and of the state? Or why does not it advocate the abrogation of the law of this state against theft? Has there not been in this, and every community instances of robbery and stealing which are in direct contravention of these laws, and which have not been punished? It is a poor rule which won't work both ways.

We may infer that, in the opinion of the Chieftain, local-option would be the panacea for all the booze ills of this state, as it claims it has been in many southern states; but those who live in local option territory are just as much beset with the protests of the advocates of the liquor traffic as are those who live in Oklahoma, and other prohibition states, with the eternal wail which goes up against the imagined "vagaries" of prohibition; and, it may be enquired, if local option is the only thing, why is it that so many states, such as Maine, Kansas, and others persist in their prohibition policies when they might have under local option so much more satisfactory (?) results. And why is it that other states which have now local option are making strenuous efforts to lay it

J. GEORGE WRIGHT NOT SO SURE OF HIS POSITION

Washington, D. C. Mar. 26.—President Taft is very much dissatisfied with the conditions of the eastern part of Oklahoma, as they relate to the government. He is tired of the turmoil that is going on there in Indian matters. This developed in a conversation between the president and one of his friends who went to see him relative to the appointment of a new commissioner of Indian affairs.

And this attitude of the president may cause J. George Wright trouble. It has certainly given a serious setback to his ambition to become commissioner of Indian affairs. And it may cause a change to be made in the commissioner's office at Muskogee, though President Taft did not say so. The thought is predicated upon the dissatisfaction expressed that conditions should have gotten into the muddled condition they are now in. This relates especially to the town lot cases and title suits.

WOMAN KIDNAPPER WAS RAISED IN CHICAGO

By Associated Press.

Chicago, Ill., Mar. 26.—Mrs. James H. Boyle, who is under arrest in Pennsylvania for the abduction of Willie Whitley, has been identified as the daughter of William McDermott, a former member of the local fire department. The description as telegraphed from Cleveland was read to the aged fireman today and he admitted the evidence seemed to prove she is his daughter. Her early life, according to her father had been a wayward one. She eloped three years ago and has not been seen by her father since.

VINCENNES WOMAN MAY HAVE COMMITTED SUICIDE

By Associated Press.

Vincennes, Ind., Mar. 26.—Mystery still surrounds the death of Mrs. Russell Culbertson, found bound and gagged near her home Wednesday and who declared she was forced to swallow poison by enemies. Reports are current that she twice attempted suicide recently and the police are inclined to believe she took her own life. No trace has been found of any strangers in the neighborhood on the afternoon of the tragedy.

aside, and to advance to the ranks of the prohibition states? Evidently the Chieftain has, after all its assumptions failed to look at the broader aspects of the temperance question as it relates to this, and other states. Indeed, after one reads the repeated denials of the temperance forces in this state which has appeared in the editorials of the Chieftain the last few months, and its criticisms of their efforts, it may be easily suspected that this journal has given ear to the incessant verifications of the anti-prohibitionists till it has become dull to those things which make for temperance and righteousness and peace.

Certain it is that the Chieftain seems to have become hysterical upon the subject of state-wide prohibition, and that it keeps well at hand a full line of the staple assumptions of the anti-temperance propaganda ready to be exploited on the slightest provocation, and, if the press of this state should be a little more guarded about its treatment of this all important social problem it would be much easier to create a public sentiment which would early bring about a more whole-some regard for our state laws, and more temperate habits among several classes of our people.

Very respectfully,
One of the "Weaklings."
(G. J. Donnell.)

POSSE AND BLACKS IN BLOODY BATTLE

Negroes and Snake Indians Resist Officers—Three Killed in Struggle Which Followed.

Muskogee, Okla., Mar. 26.—In a pitched battle which waged Thursday morning at Old Hickory stumping grounds of the Snake Indians, located six miles southwest of Henryetta, between officers and negroes and Indians the later forces combined, three negroes were killed, five wounded and one white man fatally injured.

The battle resulted when A. Y. Patty, a McIntosh county deputy sheriff, visited Old Hickory in search of stolen property believed to have been concealed in some of the negro huts and tents in that vicinity. Arriving on the scene Wednesday afternoon the deputy found the Hickory grounds alive with negroes and a fraction of the Snake Indians, and many tents erected for the use of the crowd, which apparently was holding a big pow-wow.

Deputy Patty, according to G. W. Chappell, who was in the fight, was met by a big crowd of armed negroes who in no uncertain language told him to move on at the same time displaying a hostility of manner in handling their weapons. One negro declared he would brain him with an ax if their demands were not complied with. Unable to cope with such a large armed party alone, Patty returned to Henryetta and secured the services of several officers and citizens, the posse, all told, numbering fourteen men, and returning to the stumping ground where the negroes and Indians were making medicine, in the darkness of the night, approached close to the camp and completely surrounded it, meantime intrenching themselves as best they could for the trouble which was anticipated when arrests were attempted on the morrow.

Several of the posse shortly after arrival at the ground visited a small store kept by a negro named Edwards and upon leaving the store were fired upon from ambush. This word carried to the force surrounding the camp, the intrenchments were made more secure and the long wait for morning began.

At daybreak the negro camp was astir and apparently none within knew the whereabouts of the officers. The crowd viewed in the light of day, proved much larger than was first expected and Joe Ferguson, a posseman, was sent to Eufaula for reinforcements, but before he cleared the camp was discovered. Tim Fowler interested in observing Ferguson, in his retreat from camp raised his head above the intrenchments and immediately fell with a steel bullet in his breast. The negroes opened fire and the battle was waged so vigorously that the possemen were forced to do all their shooting from their stomachs. A red hot fire on both sides was continued from early morning until nine o'clock when the negroes were routed and their capture effected.

During the fight over four hundred shots were fired and when the forty prisoners were captured sixteen steel ball rifles were captured, also numerous arms, knives and other weapons.

Conveying the captured men to Henryetta they were placed on the M. O. & G. passenger train, under heavy guard, brought to Muskogee and later taken to Eufaula, where their preliminary hearing will take place today.

The officers guarding the prisoners, numbered among them men who had participated in the battle and were greatly fatigued from the strain they had endured as none of the embattled guards had tasted food since Wednesday noon.

The battle, it is conceded is a probable result of the trouble in the same section last July when the Snake Indians defied the state officials. There were but a half dozen Indians in the gang brought here last night but these were full bloods and unable to speak English. The negroes are a part of the Snake faction which has been credited with many depredations in Okmulgee and McIntosh counties during the past six months.

It is noticeable that most all the negroes were old men or rather past middle age and there was only three or four young men in the entire crowd.

The Civic club will meet in the Cherokee club room Monday afternoon at 3:30. This is to be a mother's meeting and all mothers are especially invited to attend. Mrs. E. C. Oborn will be the leader.

KANSAS BANKING LAW DISCUSSED

National Bankers in Convention Say They Don't Like the New Guaranty Measure.

By Associated Press.

Topeka, Kans., Mar. 26.—One hundred national bankers of Kansas met in Topeka today to discuss the new Kansas bank guaranty law. The sentiment is decidedly hostile to the law and the disposition is to make no effort to have an order of the government refusing national banks permission to participate in the guaranty plan revoked. C. F. Henson, of Paola, suggests the organization of a mutual company among bankers to insure deposits, instead of participating in the state guaranty plans.

STRAY SHOTS FROM THE STATE CAPITAL.

Guthrie, Okla., Mar. 26.—A report appears to have become current and to have been published in several papers, that no law was passed by the legislature regulating the leasing of school lands that are not to be sold. Such report is in error as one of the important bills provided for leasing lands and contains more explicit regulations than any other law ever enacted by an Oklahoma legislature. Lessees are protected in their improvements and will be given a ten years lease on a four per cent of the appraised value of the land.

The wedding of Miss Haskell, the governor's daughter to Leslie Niblack on the 31st of this month is creating much interest. The prominence and popularity of the contracting parties is such as to interest society and when coupled with the fact that hundreds of invitations are out and that the wedding will be attended by prominent people from all over the state, it is little wonder that society is all interested. The state house is now being decorated for the occasion and the 31st will be a holiday in the different state departments.

New laws are being made rapidly by the governor signing bills. Saturday is the last day and all bills not signed will be killed. Yesterday evening and today the following were signed. House bill No. 472, prohibiting the sale of certain fruit trees not true to name and providing penalty therefor. Senate bill No. 367, authorizing the school land commissioners to give mortgages on certain public building lands to secure debenture bonds for public building purposes. This is the law which makes it possible to proceed with public buildings before the funds are paid for the lands which will be sold on time. House bill No. 300, providing terms for county courts. Senate bill No. 38, defining dependent, neglected and delinquent children and giving the county court control and custody of such cases. House bill No. 230, regulating the salary of county superintendents.

IOWA LEGISLATURE REFUSED TO PASS BANK GUARANTY LAW

By Associated Press.

Des Moines, Ia., Mar. 26.—The house today defeated a bill providing for an absolute state guarantee of bank deposits.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Dr. T. T. Brewer, high school examiner of the university, visited the high school this week and placed it upon the list of approved high schools so that the pupils who wish to enter the university will get full credit for work done. Dr. Brewer spoke in the highest terms of the proposed four years course as has been arranged.

The next two years mean much to the high school of Vinita as it can be made one of the best schools in the state if properly supported.

The high school held its regular literary meeting this afternoon and the program was well rendered.

The growing school sentiment in Vinita, especially among the business men, was made evident in a substantial way by their generous contributions to the athletic fund, which now exceeds over one hundred dollars.

CODE COMMISSIONERS ORGANIZE FOR WORK

Guthrie, Okla., Mar. 26.—The newly appointed code commissioners appointed by Governor Haskell met last night at the Hotel Ione and organized by electing Judge Sam Harris of Oklahoma City as chairman. Numerous applications for clerkship for the eight months work of codifying and compiling the Oklahoma laws, were read and discussed at length. All the commissioners left for their homes this morning save Jean Day and will report Monday for active work.

TULSA AND BARTLESVILLE ORGANIZATIONS CHARTERED

Guthrie, Okla., Mar. 26.—Tulsa intends to have a fair to boom her oil products. A charter was issued today to an organization of business men, to be called the "Tulsa County Fair Association," with a capital of \$25,000, directors, S. R. Lewis, W. O. Dickenson, M. A. Younkman, W. S. Hall and George Schmidt.

Bartlesville will have an athletic club according to a charter issued to the Bartlesville Athletic club, with a capital of \$5,000, and officered by R. L. Gordon, H. J. Spies, Jr., and J. P. Shipman.

Sugar Takes a Jump.

By Associated Press.

New York, Mar. 26.—All grades of refined sugar advanced ten cents a hundred today.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

Tom Byrd was in Chelsea today.

Fred Ratcliff went to Catale today.

Jim Lacey of Euchus was in Vinita today.

J. I. Morning made a trip to Chelsea today.

R. A. Wilson of Centralia is a visitor here today.

Matt Hawkins went to Okmulgee this morning.

Rev. G. W. Snodgrass left this morning for Bristow.

Andy Hampton of White Oak was here today on business.

F. D. Pulsue, a real estate man from Welch was transacting business here today.

J. H. Sisson and Richard Sisson are here today from Kansas, transacting business.

Dr. Louis Bagby, Lee Webb and Lewis Rogers made an automobile trip to Centralia today.

Tomorrow is the day, and the Barrett building, the place where the Methodist ladies will serve dinner.

J. Frank Knowles, of Horton, Mo., who has been in Vinita several days closing up deals for farming lands, he has purchased near here, left this afternoon. Mr. Knowles will probably return here in a very short time to remain.

The county election board is in session today for the purpose of giving all candidates for office in the coming election a last chance to file applications for having their names placed on the tickets to be voted in the primary on April 6.

Gold and Silver Cakes.

This is exceedingly tender and delicious when made of sour cream. It may be baked in layers or in a loaf putting the white and yellow batters in streaks like a marble cake. For the yellow part, beat to a cream the yolks of four eggs, then add a cupful sugar and beat again. Add three-fourths of a cup thick sour cream into which has been stirred a half teaspoonful soda. Next fold in a cup and three-quarters of pastry flour that has been sifted several times over and flavor with a grated yellow rind of orange and a teaspoonful orange juice or less of the extract. For the silver cake, mix a cupful sugar with a half cup sour cream, adding a scant half teaspoonful soda and a cup and three-quarters of flour. Lastly, fold in the stiffly beaten whipped whites of four eggs and flavor with a little lemon. Bake in a bread tin lined with buttered paper, putting in the batter in alternate spoonfuls. Bake in a steady, moderate oven, and when cold ice with a plain white icing flavored with lemon or orange.

STILL WRANGLING OVER RATES

Missouri is Still Engaged in Trying to Bring the Railroads to Terms.

By Associated Press.

Jefferson City, Mo., Mar. 26.—The railroad committee of the house failed today to sustain Attorney General Major's demand that roads keep the two cent rate in force pending an appeal of the state to the supreme court of the United States. The senate is in executive session today considering the two cent fare situation. This step followed yesterday's conference between the state and railroad officials who are again today debating the problem. It is believed a majority of the members of the senate will insist upon straight two and a half cent rate, with a discount of ten per cent on round trip tickets.

That there has been a practical failure of all rate negotiations between the state and railroad officials here is apparent today, after another fruitless conference and a decision by the senate not to interfere. It is considered probable the roads will put the old three cent fare into effect early next month, and that the legislature will retaliate by passing bills requiring the sale of mileage books at a rate of two cents a mile and giving the state railroad commissioners the power to fix the passenger rates.

NEW DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE ORGANIZES

The newly elected members of the city democratic central committee met at the sheriff's office in the court house last night and effected an organization by the election of H. E. Ridenhour as chairman and D. M. Marrs secretary. The personnel of the committee is as follows: First ward committeeman, Charley Goodpasture; Second ward, R. J. Wright; Third ward, H. E. Ridenhour; Fourth ward, D. M. Marrs. The committee is a strong one and is now ready for effective campaign work.

JUDGE JOHN A. MARSHALL WILL HEAR HASKELL TRIAL

Muskogee, Okla., Mar. 26.—Judge John A. Marshall, United States judge for the district court of Utah, has been named by Judge Sanborn of the United States circuit court of appeals to preside at the trial of the cases of Governor Charles N. Haskell and other prominent Oklahomans indicted for the Muskogee town lot frauds.

THE GOVERNOR HAS SIGNED THE PRIMARY ELECTION LAW

Governor Haskell yesterday signed the new primary election law passed by the recent legislature, which puts the provisions of the general election law in force for primaries, but abolishes registration for primaries and repeals the "political advertising feature" of the old law.

TO ASK FOR ONLY TEN MILLION FOR CENSUS

By Associated Press.

Washington, D. C., Mar. 26.—In view of the deficit in the treasury, Director North of the census bureau has withdrawn his request for an appropriation of fourteen million dollars for the next census and has substituted a request for ten million.

Base Ball Meeting Tonight.

Prospective members of the Vinita base ball team will meet at the firehouse tonight for the purpose of taking preliminary steps looking to the organization of a thoroughly good amateur team, and to make a selection of suits, etc. All who are interested in becoming a member of the team, are requested to be present.

Milford-Berger Shoe Co.

Spring Suiting Samples
FULL PANTS LENGTHS

A Couple of Dozen Popular Patterns

PERFECT FIT GUARANTEED

CALL AND INSPECT

Complete Line of Summer Shoes Now In